# GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
# DEFENCE
# LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:980
ANSWERED ON:20.08.2007
POOR QUALITY OF FOOD FOR ARMY
Barad Shri Jashubhai Dhanabhai;Prabhu Shri Suresh Prabhakar

**Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:**

(a) whether good quality food is not supplied to Indian Army at present as reported in Hindustan Times dated August 9, 2007;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the steps taken to provide quality food to Army;

(d) whether the Government proposes to streamline the existing procedure for local purchase of rations for defence; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

## Answer

MINISTER OF THE STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI A.K. ANTONY)

(a) to (e): A statement is attached.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (e) OF LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 980 FOR ANSWER ON 20.8.2007

The quality of food items being supplied to Indian Army is according to laid-down specifications.Control on the quality is exercised through the Composite Food Laboratories which ensure that the rations of right specifications are only accepted for consumption by troops. The review of scales, specifications and varieties of rations is a continuous process based on the institutionalized feedback mechanism. The specifications of various rations like rice, pulses and tea have been recently upgraded to ensure that forces get better standard of rations. In inaccessible areas, where it is not possible to supply fresh milk, provision of tetra pack milk is made to the satisfaction of the troops.The streamlining of the procurement procedures is undertaken from time to time depending on need thereof. However, at present there is no proposal under consideration to change the local purchase arrangements.